REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are now in this application. Claims 1-3 and 5-10 have been amended. Claims 11-14 have been added.

No additional fee is due.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the claims in the application are respectfully solicited.
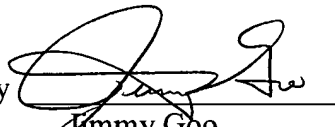
Respectfully,

Konstantinos Samaras
Louis Gwyn Samuel
Jian Jun Wu
Ran-Hong Yan

By _____
Jimmy Goo
Reg. No. 36,528

Date: __11/21/2001__

MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

1. (once amended) A method of transmitting ~~user data in a TDMA system in which the number of channels is increased by partitioning at least one time-slot in a TDMA frame into at least two sub-time-slots~~ <u>in time slots in TDMA frames user data in bursts of GSM format, each burst comprising data portions separated by a training sequence, wherein a first data portion of a burst before the training sequence is used for data of a first user and a second data portion of the burst after the training sequence is used for data of a second user.</u>

2. (once amended) The method of claim 1 in which each <u>data portion is transmitted in a</u> sub time-slot ~~is~~ allocated to a different user.

3. (once amended) The method of ~~claim 1 or~~ claim 2 in which user data is transmitted in each time slot in a burst structure, user data being transmitted in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure.

4. (no change) The method of claim 3 in which the user data is transmitted in each time slot in a burst structure having n bits and wherein each time slot is partitioned into m sub time slots, user data being transmitted in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure having n/m bits.

5. (once amended) The method of claim 3 ~~or claim 4~~ in which the user data comprises speech~~, the burst structure being a GSM burst structure~~.

6. (once amended) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim <u>1</u> in which the TDMA system is an EDGE packet switched network.

7. (once amended) The method of ~~any one of claims~~ claim <u>1</u> ~~to~~ 6 in which the TDMA system is a wireless system, wherein in ~~the~~ up-link data from p users is

encoded such that each forms 1/p of an RLC/MAC block, wherein the up-link data from each user is encoded into a respective one of p sub-time-slots.

8.   (once amended) The method of claim 7, ~~when dependent upon claim 6~~ wherein the RLC/MAC block is transmitted over four TDMA frames.

9.   (once amended) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the user data is encoded into an RLC/MAC block for transmission, the RLC/MAC block being transmitted in a sub-time-slot over a plurality of frames.

10.   (once amended) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 in which user data associated with at least two users is encoded into a single RLC/MAC block, the portions of the RLC/MAC block associated with respective users being transmitted in respective sub-time-slots.

11.   (newly added) The method of claim 1 in which the user data is transmitted in each time slot in a burst structure having n bits and wherein each time slot is partitioned into m sub time slots, user data being transmitted in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure having n/m bits.

12.   (newly added) The method of claim 11 in which the user data comprises speech.

13.   (newly amended) The method of claim 12 in which the TDMA system is a wireless system, wherein in up-link data from p users is encoded such that each forms 1/p of an RLC/MAC block, wherein the up-link data from each user is encoded into a respective one of p sub-time-slots.

14.   (newly added) The method of claim 1, wherein the RLC/MAC block is transmitted over four TDMA frames.

1. (once amended) A method of transmitting ~~user data in a TDMA system in which the number of channels is increased by partitioning at least one time-slot in a TDMA frame into at least two sub-time-slots~~ in time slots in TDMA frames user data in bursts of GSM format, each burst comprising data portions separated by a training sequence, wherein a first data portion of a burst before the training sequence is used for data of a first user and a second data portion of the burst after the training sequence is used for data of a second user.

2. (once amended) The method of claim 1 in which each data portion is transmitted in a sub time-slot ~~is~~ allocated to a different user.

3. (once amended) The method of ~~claim 1 or~~ claim 2 in which user data is transmitted in each time slot in a burst structure, user data being transmitted in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure.

4. The method of claim 3 in which the user data is transmitted in each time slot in a burst structure having n bits and wherein each time slot is partitioned into m sub time slots, user data being transmitted in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure having n/m bits.

5. (once amended) The method of claim 3 ~~or claim 4~~ in which the user data comprises speech~~, the burst structure being a GSM burst structure~~.

6. (once amended) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 in which the TDMA system is an EDGE packet switched network.

7. (once amended) The method of ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ 6 in which the TDMA system is a wireless system, wherein in ~~the~~ up-link data from p users is encoded such that each forms 1/p of an RLC/MAC block, wherein the up-link data from each user is encoded into a respective one of p sub-time-slots.

8.   (once amended) The method of claim 7, ~~when dependent upon claim 6~~ wherein the RLC/MAC block is transmitted over four TDMA frames.

9.   (once amended) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the user data is encoded into an RLC/MAC block for transmission, the RLC/MAC block being transmitted in a sub-time-slot over a plurality of frames.

10.   (once amended) The method of ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 in which user data associated with at least two users is encoded into a single RLC/MAC block, the portions of the RLC/MAC block associated with respective users being transmitted in respective sub-time-slots.

11.   (newly added) The method of claim 1 in which the user data is transmitted in each time slot in a burst structure having n bits and wherein each time slot is partitioned into m sub time slots, user data being transmitted in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure having n/m bits.

12.   (newly added) The method of claim 11 in which the user data comprises speech.

13.   (newly amended) The method of claim 12 in which the TDMA system is a wireless system, wherein in up-link data from p users is encoded such that each forms 1/p of an RLC/MAC block, wherein the up-link data from each user is encoded into a respective one of p sub-time-slots.

14.   (newly added) The method of claim 1, wherein the RLC/MAC block is transmitted over four TDMA frames.